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(71) Applicants (for all designated States except US): **ASTRA ZENECA AB** [SE/SE]; S-151 85, Söderstälje (SE). **NPS PHARMACEUTICALS, INC.** [US/US]; 420 Chipeta Way, Salt Lake City, UT 84108 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **WENSBO, David** [SE/SE]; c/o AstraZeneca AB, S-151 85 Sodertälje (SE). **XIN, Tao** [CA/CA]; 10 Comoq Avenue, Woodbridge, Ontario L4H 2B1 (CA). **STEFANAC, Tomislav** [CA/CA]; 4483 Bennett Road, Burlington, Ontario L7L 1Y5 (CA). **ARORA, JalaJ** [CA/CA]; 34 Alona Avenue, Cambridge, Ontario N3C 3Y5 (CA). **EDWARDS, Louise** [CA/CA]; 871 Chippenham Drive, Mississauga, Ontario L5H 3S6 (CA). **ISAAC, Methvin** [CA/CA]; 2101 Islington Avenue Apt #2105, Etobicoke, Ontario M9P 3R2 (CA). **SLASSI, Abdelmalik** [CA/CA]; 4780 Fulwell Road, Mississauga, Ontario L5M 7J7 (CA). **STORMANN, Thomas, M.** [US/US]; 1327 Harrison Avenue, Salt Lake City, UT 84105 (US). **MCLEOD, Donald, A.** [US/US]; 7740 South Newport Way, Salt Lake City, UT 84121 (US). **KERS, Annika** [SE/SE]; c/o AstraZeneca AB, S-151 85 Sodertälje (SE). **MALMBERG, Johan** [SE/SE]; c/o AstraZeneca AB, S-151 85 Sodertälje (SE). **OSCARSSON, Karin** [SE/SE]; c/o AstraZeneca AB, S-151 85 Sofertälje (SE). **GYBACK,**

**Helena** [SE/SE]; c/o AstraZeneca AB, S-151 85 Sodertälje (SE). **JOHANSSON, Martin** [SE/SE]; c/o AstraZeneca AB, S-151 85 Sofertälje (SE). **MINIDIS, Alexander** [SE/SE]; c/o AstraZeneca AB, S-151 85 Sodertälje (SE). **WALDMAN, Mangus** [SE/SE]; c/o AstraZeneca AB, S-151 85 Sodertälje (SE). **YNGVE, Ulrika** [SE/SE]; c/o AstraZeneca AB, S-151 85 Sodertälje (SE). **OSTER-WALL, Christoffer** [SE/SE]; c/o AstraZeneca AB, S-151 85 Sodertälje (SE).

(74) Agent: **BENT, Stephen, A.**; Foley & Lardner, Washington Harbour, 3000 K Street, N.W. Suite 500, Washington, DC 20007-5101 (US).

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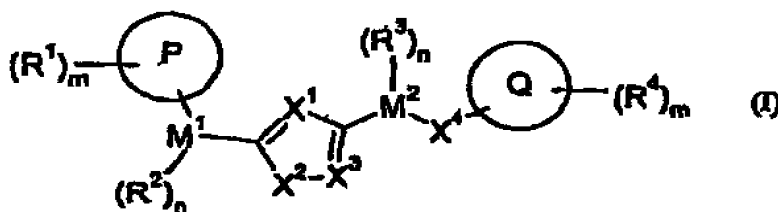
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27 May 2004

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: "1,2,4"OXADIAZOLES AS MODULATORS OF METABOTROPIC GLUTAMATE RECEPTOR-5



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to new compounds of formula (I), a process for their preparation and new intermediates prepared therein, pharmaceutical formulations containing said compounds and to the use of said compounds in therapy. In particular, there are compounds according to the present invention that are potent and selective for the mGluR Group I receptor

and more particularly for mGluR5. Thus, it is expected that the compounds of the invention are well suited for the prevention and/or treatment of mGluR5 receptor-mediated disorders such as acute and chronic neurological and psychiatric disorders and chronic and acute pain disorders.

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/US 03/24846

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 C07D413/12 C07D413/14 C07D417/14 A61K31/4245 A61P25/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 C07D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, CHEM ABS Data, WPI Data, BEILSTEIN Data, PAJ

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 99 26927 A (STORMANN THOMAS M ;DELMAR ERIC G (US); MOE SCOTT T (US); SMITH DAR) 3 June 1999 (1999-06-03) page 5, line 30 - line 34; claims 1,15,16 figure 1, compound 5 ---	1-27
X	EP 0 397 365 A (PFIZER) 14 November 1990 (1990-11-14) claims 1,14 examples ---	1-27
X	US 5 140 034 A (BAKER RAYMOND ET AL) 18 August 1992 (1992-08-18) column 1, line 5 - line 15; claim 1 column 4, line 25 - line 42 --- -/--	1-27

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

## \* Special categories of cited documents :

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- \*L\* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- \*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- \*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- \*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- \*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- \*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- \*Z\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

9 December 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

23/01/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,  
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Seymour, L

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/US 03/24846

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 422 369 A (BAYER AG) 17 April 1991 (1991-04-17) page 4, line 26 - line 44; claims 1,10; table 1 ---	1-17,28
X	WO 00 35913 A (AVENTIS CROPS SCIENCE GMBH) 22 June 2000 (2000-06-22) page 22; claims 1,9; table 1 ---	1-24,28
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X	GÜNAY N S ET AL: "5-Nitroimidazole derivatives as possible antibacterial and antifungal agents" IL FARMACO, vol. 54, 1999, pages 826-831, XP002264297 ROME, IT ISSN: 0014-827X tables 1,2 ---	1-24
X	MADRONERO R ET AL: "Tetrazole analogues of arylthiazolylacetic acids. Synthesis and pharmacological study" EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF MEDICINAL CHEMISTRY., vol. 9, no. 4, 1974, pages 445-448, XP009022649 EDITIONS SCIENTIFIQUE ELSEVIER, PARIS., FR ISSN: 0223-5234 scheme 1 abstract ---	1-27
X	DATABASE CROSSFIRE BEILSTEIN 'Online! Beilstein Institut zur Förderung der Chemischen Wissenschaften, Frankfurt am Main, DE; Database accession no. 4885431 XP002264298 5,5'-(1,2-ethanediyl)-bis[3-(m-tolyl)-1,2, 4-oxadiazole] & ORG. MASS SPECTROM. (1991), 26(11), 1017-1018, ---	1-17
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## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/US 03/24846

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	DATABASE CROSSFIRE BEILSTEIN 'Online! Beilstein Institut zur Förderung der Chemischen Wissenschaften, Frankfurt am Main, DE; Database accession no. 4208871 XP002264299 & SYNTH. COMMUN. (1990), 20(12), 1811-1817,	1-17
P, X	----- DATABASE CHEMCATS 'Online! CHEMICAL ABSTRACTS SERVICE, COLUMBUS, OHIO, US; XP002264300 Order numbers: SPB 01075, SEW 03694, BTB 02953 & "Maybridge HTS" 14 May 2003 (2003-05-14) , MAYBRIDGE PLC , TINTAGEL, CORNWALL, PL34 0HW, UK -----	1-17

## FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

## Continuation of Box I.2

The present application contains four separate independent compound claims of overlapping scope (see claims 1, 2, 16 and 17). The aforementioned claims therefore lack conciseness. Moreover, lack of clarity of the claims as a whole arises, since the plurality of independent claims makes it difficult, if not impossible, to determine the matter for which protection is sought, and places an undue burden on others seeking to establish the extent of the protection (Article 6 PCT). A further lack of clarity arises owing to the fact that a seemingly arbitrary selection of compounds have been disclaimed in claim 2 but not in the broader claim 1. Many of the variables in the claims are so ill-defined that it is impossible to determine the subject-matter for which protection is sought. For example, it is not clear whether the definition of X4 in claim 2 as being C0-C4alkylR5R6 is intended to imply that X4 may be absent (i.e. for C0-alkyl).

The initial phase of the search revealed a very large number of documents relevant to the issue of novelty. So many documents were retrieved (see search report for a selection of documents) that it is impossible to determine which parts of the claims may be said to define subject-matter for which protection might legitimately be sought (Article 6 PCT). For these reasons, a meaningful search over the whole breadth of the claims is impossible. Consequently, the search has been restricted to compounds of formula I as defined in claim 2 wherein X1, X2 and X3 are as defined in claim 5, M2 is as defined in claim 7 and X4 is defined as in claim 10.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims, or parts of claims, relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure.

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/US 03/24846

**Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of Item 1 of first sheet)**

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☒ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:  
  
Although claims 26 and 27 are directed to a method of treatment of the human/animal body, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the compound/composition.
2. ☒ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:  
  
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

**Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)**

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

**Remark on Protest**

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

PCT/US 03/24846

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